Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule having:
   (a) a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1;
   (b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2;
   (c) a nucleotide sequence with at least 85% identity to the sequence of (a) or (b);
   (d) a subsequence of a least 50 consecutive nucleotides of a sequence of (a), (b) or (c), with the proviso that said subsequence does not fall between nucleotide 1027 and nucleotide 1076 of SEQ ID NO: 1; or
   (e) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of the nucleotide sequences in (a),(b), (c) or (d).

2. (original) The nucleic acid of claim 1 having said nucleotide sequence with at least 85% identity to the sequence of (a) or (b).

3. (original) The nucleic acid of claim 1 encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.

4. (original) The nucleic acid of claim 1 having a subsequence of a least 50 consecutive nucleotides, which is antisense to SEQ ID NO:1 or a sequence having at least 85% identity thereto.

5. (currently amended) A nucleic acid vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 4.~~

6. (original) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 5.

7. (original) An isolated polypeptide having:
   (a) an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No. 2;
   (b) an amino acid sequence with at least 85% identity to the sequence of (a); or
   (c) a subsequence of at least 30 consecutive amino acids of the sequence of (a) or (b), with the proviso that said subsequence does not fall within amino acid nos. 1102 and 1152 of SEQ ID NO:2.

8. (original) The polypeptide of claim 7, wherein said amino acid sequence in (b) comprises a conservative substitution of at least one amino acid in said amino acid sequence of SEQ ID: NO: 2.

9. (currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 7 ~~or 8~~, wherein said polypeptide has stem cell differentiation inducing activity.

10. (original) The polypeptide of claim 7, said polypeptide having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.

11. (original) An antibody that specifically recognizes the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4.

12. (original) An antibody that specifically recognizes tenascin W for use as a pharmaceutical.

13. (original) The antibody of claim 12, wherein said antibody specifically recognizes tenascin W having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4, for use as a pharmaceutical.

14. (original) The use of an antibody that specifically recognizes tenascin W for the manufacture of a medicament, for the prophylaxis or treatment of cancer.

15. (original) The use as claimed in claim 14, wherein said cancer is metastatic.

16. (currently amended) The use as claimed in claim 14 ~~or 15~~, wherein the cancer is a solid tumour.

17. (currently amended) The use as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 14 ~~to 16,~~ wherein the cancer is a glioblastoma, prostate, lung, colorectal, osteo- or breast carcinoma.

18. (original) The use of an antibody that specifically recognizes tenascin W for the prophylaxis or treatment of a bone disease resulting from excessive bone growth.

19. (original) A composition comprising an isolated nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 or SEQ ID No. 3;

(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;

(c) a nucleotide sequence with at least 35% identity to any one of the sequences of (a) or (b);

(d) a subsequence of a least 15 consecutive nucleotides of the sequence of (a),(b) or (c); and

(e) a nucleotide sequence complementary to (a),(b), (c), or (d), and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent or carrier.

20. (original) The composition of claim 19, wherein said nucleic acid molecule has a subsequence that is antisense to SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3.

21. (original) The composition of claim 19, said composition comprising said isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO:4.

22. (currently amended) A composition as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 19 ~~to 21~~ for use as a pharmaceutical.

23. (currently amended) The use of the compositions of ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 19 ~~to 21~~ for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis or treatment of cancer.

24. (currently amended) The use of the compositions of ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 19 ~~to 21~~ for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis or treatment of bone pathologies.

25. (original) A composition comprising tenascin-W and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent or carrier.

26. (original) The composition of claim 25, wherein said tenascin-W is recombinant.

27. (original) A composition as claimed in claim 25, wherein said tenascin-W is a polypeptide having:

(a) an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No. 2 or 4;

(b) an amino acid sequence with at least 35% identity to the sequence of (a); or

(c) a subsequence of at least 30 consecutive amino acids of the sequence of (a) or (b).

28. (original) The composition of claim 27, said composition comprising said polypeptide encoding the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 4.

29. (currently amended) A composition as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 25 ~~to 28~~ for use as a pharmaceutical.

30. (currently amended) The use of the compositions of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 25 ~~to 28~~ for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylactic treatment of any disease or condition requiring increased tenascin-W levels, e.g. thrombosis, wound healing or

atherosclerosis, or for the treatment or prophylactic treatment of a condition ameliorated by the promotion of osteogenesis, e.g. bone healing, osteoporosis.

31. (currently amended) A method for treatment or prophylactic treatment of a disease or condition requiring increased tenascin-W levels, e.g. thrombosis, wound healing, atherosclerosis, bone healing and osteoporosis, said method comprising administering an effective amount of the compositions of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 25 ~~to 28~~ to an individual in need of such treatment.

32. (currently amended) A method of inducing stem cell differentiation into bone cells, said method comprising contacting a suitable stem cell with an effective amount of the composition of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 25 ~~to 28~~.

33. (original) The method of claim 32, wherein said stem cell is a mesenchymal stem cell.

34. (original) The use of tenascin-W as a stem cell marker.

35. (original) A method for identifying modulators of tenascin W function, said method comprising contacting a test compound with a tenascin-W expressing cell and then measuring a change in one or more of:
    (a) cell proliferation, e.g. cell progression entering S-phase of the cell cycle;
    (b) DNA synthesis;
    (c) cell adhesion;
    (d) cell spreading;
    (e) focal adhesion and actin stress fibre formation on fibronectin; or
    (f) cell binding to extracellular matrix (ECM) relative to when said test compound is absent.

36. (original) A method as claimed in claim 35, further comprising measuring a change in tenascin-W expression in the absence and presence of said test compound.

37. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 35 ~~or 36~~, wherein said cell is a human cell.

38. (currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 35 ~~to~~ 37, wherein said cell is present in a tissue sample.

39. (currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 35 ~~to 37~~, wherein said cell is present in a blood sample.

40. (original) A method for identifying modulators of tenascin W function, said method comprising:

(a) contacting a test compound with tenascin W and/or alpha8 beta1 integrin, and

(b) measuring the binding of said test compound to tenascin W and/or alpha8 beta1 integrin, or

(c) measuring a disruption of binding of tenascin-W to alpha8 beta1 integrin, relative to when said test compound is absent.

41. (original) A method as claimed in claim 40, further comprising measuring the binding of a control compound to tenascin-W.

42. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 40 ~~or 41~~, wherein said tenascin-W is attached to a solid surface.

43. (currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 41 ~~to 42~~, wherein said binding is detected using an antibody labelled with a fluorescent label, a fluorescence quencher, a radioactive label, a scintillant or an enzyme.

44. (currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 41 ~~to 43~~, wherein a decrease in binding of tenascin-W to alpha8 beta1 integrin is indicative of an inhibitor of tenascin W function.

45. (currently amended) A substance for the prevention or the prophylactic treatment of a disease or condition dependent on tenascin-W, identified by a method as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 40 ~~to 44~~.

46. (original) A method of diagnosing or prognosing cancer comprising:

(a) analysing a sample obtained from an individual for the presence of tenascin-W protein or transcript

(b) correlating the presence of tenascin-W with an unfavourable prognosis or diagnosis.

47. (original) A method of diagnosing or prognosing cancer as claimed in claim 46, comprising correlating in (b) an elevated level of tenascin-W protein or transcript relative to healthy tissue with an unfavourable prognosis or diagnosis.

48. (currently amended) A method of diagnosing or prognosing cancer as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 46 ~~to 47~~, wherein said sample is blood serum or plasma from an individual.

49. (currently amended) A method of diagnosing or prognosing cancer as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 46 ~~to 48~~, further comprising analyzing said sample for the presence of alpha 8 integrin expression, the presence of said alpha 8 integrin correlating with an unfavourable prognosis or diagnosis.

50. (currently amended) A method of diagnosing or prognosing cancer as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 46 ~~to 49~~, further comprising propagating cells in said sample in cell culture.

51. (currently amended) A method of diagnosing or prognosing cancer as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 48 ~~to 50~~, wherein said tenascin-W protein is detected using an antibody specific for tenascin-W.

52. (currently amended) A method of diagnosing or prognosing cancer as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 48 ~~to 50~~, wherein said tenascin-W transcripts are detected using a polymerase chain reaction.